SOZ): (a) and (b) Although some cases of attempted smuggling of medicinal herbs have been detected, there is no large scale smuggling of these plants or their products.

(c) Steps taken to prevent smuggling of medicinal herbs are given below :

(i) Collection of wild plant species covered under Schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.

(ii) Export of 56 species of plant or plant portion and their derivatives covered under P. No. 47(PN)/92-97 dated 30.3.94 obtained from the wild have been prohibited.

(iii) Export of plants other than above 56 species requires a Legal Procurement Certificate (LPC) from Regional Dy. Director, Wildlife Preservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests or Chief Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests of the State concerned from where these plants have been procured.

(iv) The cultivated variety of plant/plant portions covered by P.N. 47 can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable.

(v) Export of sandalwood in any form, excluding finished and processed handicraft products, machine finished products are prohibited.

(vi) Export of Red Sanders in any form whether raw, processed or unprocessed as well as any products made thereby is banned.

(vii) The export of plants and plant portions are allowed only through the seven major ports at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Tuticorin, Madras and Amritsar.

(viii) International trade in India with respect to six species covered under Appendix I of CITES is prohibited and for 15 species, covered under Appendix II of CITES, is regulated under the provisions of the CITES.

(ix) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild plants reaches them.

(x) Inter departmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during 1995 and November, 1996.

Credit for Environment Project from the World Bank

1671. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has announced $ 50 million environment management capacity building credit to India from its soft loan window, the International Development Association;

(b) if so, whether this project is to provide technical assistance and training to the Indian Government to strengthen its environmental policy planning and environmental awareness efforts;

(c) if so, the total cost of the project and India's contribution to it;

(d) the other fields in the environmental sector in which this project is likely to help India;

(e) whether this project is also likely to benefit coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The total cost of this project is estimated at US $ 61.48 million (equivalent to Rs. 221.32 crores), with Government of India's contribution of US $ 11.48 million (Rs. 41.32 crores).

(d) The project would also strengthen Environmental Monitoring and Compliance. Specific emphasis would be placed on aspects relating to Coastal Zone Management, Environmental Standards, Environmental Management of Mines and preparation of Industrial Siting and Zoning Atlas.

(e) and (f) The project would cover the coastal and marine areas of India and would support the (i) development of a GIS-based information system for critical habitats in the coastal marine areas of India; (ii) preparation of model Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management Plans; (iii) conducting waste assimilation capacity and ecological modeling of selected coastal areas; and (iv) development of Environmental Impact Assessment guidelines for major marine and coastal area developmental activities. The coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh would therefore also benefit from the project.